



Reprinted with permission from the New Britton and Brown Illustrated Flora of the Northeastern United States and Adjacent Canada, Vol. 2, page 330; Copyright 1952, The New York Botanical Garden.

PRUNUS PUMILA
SAND CHERRY

Sand Cherry is a low shrub with prostrate to ascending branches that are 0.1-0.4 m tall. The alternate, narrowly elliptic, glabrous, dark green leaves are 4-7 cm long, and have entire to finely-toothed margins. The twigs are red but become gray with age. Clusters of 2-4 flowers occur in the axils of the expanding leaves. Each flower has a bowl-shaped, 5-lobed calyx that is 2-4 mm high and which holds the ovary and 25-30 stamens. The 5 separate, white petals are 6-8 mm long. The nearly spherical fruit is dark purple and 13-15 mm long. Mature fruit in June.

Distinguished from other species of *PRUNUS* in our area by the low, often nearly prostrate growth form less than 1 m tall for mature plants.